

Federal Emergency Management Agency

PUBLIC NOTICE

**Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment
For LaSalle County Emergency Operation Center Construction
LaSalle County, Illinois**

Environmental Assessment (EA) for the LaSalle County Emergency Operations Center, Illinois, Emergency Operations Center Grant Program.

Interested persons are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)/Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is proposing to assist in the funding of emergency operations center located within the LaSalle County Illinois Governmental Complex campus at 707 East Etna Road, Ottawa, Illinois. This emergency operations center is essential for LaSalle County to provide emergency services during terror and disaster events. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and the implementing regulations of FEMA, an EA is being prepared to assess the potential impacts of each of the proposed alternatives on the human and natural environment. This also provides public notice to invite public comments on the proposed project in accordance with Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, and Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands. In addition, this notice and the draft EA provide information to the public on potential impacts to historic and cultural resources from the proposed undertaking, as outlined in the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966.

The draft EA is available for review between June 19, 2009 and July 18, 2009 at the LaSalle County Clerk's Office and the LaSalle County Emergency Management Agency located at 707 East Etna Road, Ottawa, Illinois during normal hours of operation. It is also available at the Reddick Library located at 1010 Canal Street, Ottawa, Illinois. The draft EA is also available for review online at the FEMA website <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region5.shtm>.

Written comments regarding this environmental action should be received no later than 5 p.m. on July 18, 2009, by Amanda C. Ratliff, Regional Environmental Officer, FEMA, 536 South Clark Street, 6th Floor, Chicago, IL 60605-1521, or at Amanda.Ratliff@dhs.gov.

If no substantive comments are received by the above deadline, the draft EA and associated Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will become final and be published by FEMA. Substantive comments will be addressed as appropriate in the final documents.

The public may request a copy of the final environmental documents from Amanda C. Ratliff at the address listed above.